

Message Text

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47

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-05 NSAE-00

PA-01 RSC-01 USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 PM-03 NSC-05 SS-15

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R 041508Z DEC 74

FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 618

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, EG, US, UR

SUBJECT: HEGAZI PRESS CONFERENCE IN KUWAIT

SUMMARY: CAIRO DEC 4 PRESS REPORTS OF PRIMIN HEGAZI'S
COMMENTS FEATURED BALANCED TREATMENT OF US
ALONG WITH WARM EXPRESSIONS TOWARD USSR AND FRANCE RE
THEIR ME POLICIES. GULF STATES AND LIBYA ALSO RECEIVED
FRIENDLY AND UNCRITICAL MENTION, RESPECTIVELY. END SUMMARY

1. CAIRO PAPERS LEAD DEC 4 WITH PRIMIN HEGAZI'S COMMENTS
TO PRESS IN KUWAIT PREVIOUS DAY. AHRAM BANNERS "OUR AIM IS
NEUTRALIZING OF AMERICAN AND WARM DESIRE TO MAINTAIN OUR
RELATIONSHIP WITH USSR."

2. DEALING FIRST WITH USG, HEGAZI REPORTEDLY REPEATED NOTION OFTEN
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USED BY SADAT AND FAHMY; NAMELY, THAT EGYPT WANTS TO "NEUTRALIZE"

USG STAND, BUT DOES NOT EXPECT WASHINGTON TO BECOME PRO-ARAB.
"IT IS NOT OUR INTEREST THAT THERE SHOULD BE ENMITY BETWEEN US
AND US." USG/GOI RELATIONS DIFFER TOTALLY FROM USG/GOE RELATIONS.
"WE WELCOME DIALOGUE WITH BIG POWERS, INCLUDING AMERICA, WHICH
ARE COMMITTED TO HELP US FIND ME SOLUTION..." TURNING TO USSR,
HEGAZI STRESSED THERE IS BASIC STRATEGIC POLICY BEHIND GOE/USSR
RELATIONSHIP. MOSCOW GETS CREDIT FOR POLITICAL AND MILITARY
PUSH GIVEN TO EGYPT. BUT EGYPT IS NOT PART OF WESTERN OR
EASTERN BLOCS. CERTAIN ISSUES CREATED "SENSITIVITY" IN PAST
BETWEEN GOE AND USSR, BUT THEY DID NOT AFFECT "THE POLITICAL
STRATEGY". BREZHNEV/SADAT SUMMIT WILL HAVE SPECIAL SIGNIFICANCE,
"SINCE BREZHNEV PRESENCE IN AREA MEANS MORE THAN MOST THINK BECAUSE
SOVIETS ARE KEEN ON MAINTAINING THEIR RELATIONS WITH THE COUNTRIES
OF THE ARAB REGION." (COMMENT: WE DOUBT SOVIET EMBASSY WILL
BE PLEASED WITH LUKEWARM PRAISE OF MOSCOW. LAST SENTENCE APPEARS TO
US TO CONTAIN POSSIBLE BARB, SINCE ISRAEL IS A COUNTRY IN
THE ARAB REGION.)

3. DELAING WITH EUROPEAN RELATIONS, FRANCE GETS NOD FOR ADOPTING
"HONORABLE STAND". (COMMENT: FRANCE HAS CLEARLY DEVELOPED AS
EGYPT'S BEST EUROPEAN FRIEND)

4. IN RATHER INTERESTING ADMISSION OF GULF IMPATIENCE WITH
EGYPTIAN ARROGANCE AND IMPLICIT ADMISSION OF NASSERIST MEDDLING,
HEGAZI SAID HIS TALKS IN GULF DID NOT STRESS OBTAINING LOANS BUT
RATHER WORKING OUT COMMON ECONOMIC STRATEGY. AS FAR AS DOMESTIC
ISSUES ARE CONCERNED, HE STRESSED, THEY ARE THE CONCERN OF THE
COUNTRY INVOLVED AND NOT OF OTHER COUNTRIES.

5. RE LIBYA, THERE MAY BE "DIFFERENCES IN VIEWS" BETWEEN EGYPTIAN
AND LIBYAN REVOLUTION, BUT AIMS AND NATIONAL ASPIRIATIONS ARE THE SAME

.
HEGAZI REPORTEDLY REMARKED FURTHER THAT DIFFERENCES BETWEEN
TRIPOLI AND CAIRO "WILL NOT BE CAUSE FOR ENMITY BECAUSE
PRESIDENT SADAT SAYS PRESENT STAGE WILL NOT TOLERATE
STRIFE."
EILTS

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